

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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Claim 1 (previously amended): A personal computer system comprising:

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a personal computer;
a main display unit coupled to said personal computer, said main display unit configured to receive first information associated with a first application launched by said personal computer and display the first information; and
an auxiliary display unit coupled to said personal computer and distinct from said main display unit, said auxiliary display unit configured to receive second information associated with a second application launched by said personal computer, said auxiliary display unit including
a display for displaying the second information, and
an input user interface dedicated to said auxiliary display unit and configured to receive inputs allowing user interaction with the second application in response to the second information being displayed on said display.

Claim 2 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said personal computer, said main display unit and said auxiliary display unit are integrated together in a single physical structure.

Claim 3 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said main display unit and said auxiliary display unit are not physically attached to each other.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, further comprising a wireless interface for coupling said auxiliary display unit to said personal computer.

Claim 6 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said input user interface is configured to receive an input to change a variable associated with the second application.

Claim 7 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said main display unit includes a display, the display of said auxiliary display unit being larger than the display of said main display unit.

Claim 8 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein the display of said auxiliary display unit is a liquid crystal display or an electro-luminescent panel.

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Claim 9 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein the second application is a messaging application.

Claim 10 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 42, wherein the second application is an audio, video or multimedia player application, and said input user interface is configured to receive inputs for controlling aspects of the second application represented in the graphical user interface.

Claim 11 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said input user interface of said auxiliary display unit includes features not available with an input user interface associated with said main display unit.

Claims 12-14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 1, further comprising a second auxiliary display unit coupled to said personal computer and distinct from said main display unit and said auxiliary display unit, said second auxiliary display unit configured to receive third information from a third application launched by said personal computer and displaying the third information.

Claim 16 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 15, wherein said second auxiliary display unit is further configured to receive the first information and/or the second information.

Claim 17 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 16, wherein said personal computer is configured to dynamically control which information said second auxiliary display unit receives.

Claim 18 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 16, wherein said personal computer is configured to determine whether said second auxiliary display unit has sufficient display space available to receive the first or second information.

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Claim 19 (previously amended): The personal computer system according to claim 16, wherein said personal computer is configured to determine whether a user of said second auxiliary display unit is authorized to receive the first or second information.

Claim 20 (currently amended): In a computer system having a host computer, and a first display unit and second display unit coupled to said host computer, a method for controlling the display of information associated with an active application, said method comprising:

determining whether the second display unit has available capacity to display information associated with the application;

sending the information associated with the application to the second display unit for display when the second display unit has available capacity; and

sending the information associated with the application to said first display unit for display when the second display unit has no available capacity to display the information.

Claim 21 (previously amended): The method according to claim 20, further comprising sending the information associated with the application to said first display unit for display when the second display unit has available capacity to display the information.

Claim 22 (previously amended): The method according to claim 20, wherein when the second display unit has available capacity to display the information associated with the application, further comprising sending second information associated with the application to said first display unit for display, the second information differing from the information sent to said second display unit.

Claim 23 (previously amended): The method according to claim 20, wherein the information is a graphical user interface for an audio, video or multimedia player.

Claim 24 (previously amended): The method according to claim 20, wherein the information is a notification associated with a messaging application.

Claim 25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (previously amended): The method according to claim 20, wherein said determining further comprises determining whether the second display unit has sufficient display space to display the information.

Claim 27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (currently amended): In a computer system having a host computer, a main display unit coupled to said host computer, and an auxiliary display unit coupled to said host computer, said auxiliary display unit being a standalone unit including a display and an input user interface, a method comprising:

displaying first information associated with an active application on said main display unit;

displaying a graphical user interface associated with the application on the display of said standalone auxiliary display unit;

receiving an input from a user through the input user interface of said standalone auxiliary display unit, the input requesting second information associated with the application; and
displaying the second information on said display of said standalone auxiliary display unit.

Claim 29 (previously amended): The method according to claim 28, wherein the graphical user interface includes a notification associated with a messaging application.

Claim 30 (previously amended): The method according to claim 28, further including determining whether the user is authorized to receive the second information and only displaying the second information responsive to determining that the user is authorized.

Claim 31 (previously amended): The method according to claim 30, wherein said determining includes receiving an authorization input from said user.

Claim 32 (previously amended): The method according to claim 31, wherein the authorization input is a biometric associated with the user.

Claims 33-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (previously amended): A computer network comprising:

a server;
plural computer systems coupled to said server, each computer system including,
a host computer coupled to said server;
a main display unit, coupled to and controlled by said host computer, said main display unit configured to receive first information associated with a first application launched by said host computer and display the first information; and
an auxiliary display unit coupled to and controlled by said host computer and distinct from said main display unit, said auxiliary display unit physically remote from said main display

unit and configured to receive second information associated with a second application launched by said host computer, said auxiliary display unit including
a display for displaying the second information, and
an input user interface dedicated to said auxiliary display unit and configured to receive inputs allowing user interaction with the second application in response to the second information being displayed on said display.

Claim 37 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said auxiliary display unit only receives and displays information associated with the second application.

Claim 38 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said input user interface is configured to receive user authorization information from a user, the user authorization information being processed to determine whether the user is authorized to change a variable associated with the second application.

Claim 39 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said input user interface is configured to receive user authorization information from a user, the user authorization information being processed to determine a level of interaction with the second application for which the user is authorized.

Claim 40 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 39, wherein the second application is a messaging application and the level of interaction includes viewing messages.

Claim 41 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein the second application is a messaging application and one of the inputs is a request to access a message.

Claim 42 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein the second information includes a graphical user interface associated with the second application.

Claim 43 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein said auxiliary display unit is physically remote from said main display unit.

Claim 44 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 43, wherein only one of said auxiliary display unit and said main display unit can be seen by a single user at a single moment in time due to the physical proximity of said main display unit and said auxiliary display unit.

Claim 45 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary display unit is portable.

Claim 46 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 45, where the auxiliary display unit is physically attachable to a user.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A personal computer system comprising:

a personal computer;

a main display unit coupled to said personal computer, said main display unit configured to receive and display first information associated with a first active application associated with said personal computer system; and

an auxiliary display unit coupled to said personal computer and distinct from said main display unit, said auxiliary display unit configured to receive second information from an external network associated with a second active application in said personal computer system, said auxiliary display unit including,

a display for displaying the second information,

a processing unit for receiving and processing instructions received from said personal computer, and

a modem configured to couple said auxiliary display unit to the external network responsive to instructions received from said personal computer or said processing unit, without connecting to the external network through said personal computer.

Claim 48 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 47, wherein the second information is pushed from the external network.

Claim 49 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 48, wherein the second information includes news information.

Claim 50 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 47, wherein said auxiliary display unit is physically remote from said main display unit.

Claim 51 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 47, wherein said personal computer and said auxiliary display unit are separately addressable by the external network.

Claim 52 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 47, wherein said personal computer and said auxiliary display unit can independently and contemporaneously communicate over the external network or different external networks without sharing the same bandwidth.

Claim 53 (previously added): The personal computer system according to claim 47, wherein said personal computer communicates over the external network by way of a first communication link and said auxiliary display unit communicates over the external network by way of a second communication link different from said first communication link.

Claim 54 (previously added): A computer system comprising:

a host computer having an operating system and an application stored thereon and configured to run the operating system and launch the application;

a main display unit coupled to said host computer, said main display unit configured to receive and display first information associated with the application when said host computer launches the application; and

an auxiliary display unit coupled to said host computer and distinct from said main display unit, said auxiliary display unit configured to receive and display second information associated with a task bar or system tray of the operating system running on said host computer.

Claim 55 (currently amended): A computer readable medium for use with a computer system having a host computer, a main display unit coupled to said host computer, and an standalone auxiliary display unit physically remote from said main display unit and said host computer and coupled to said host computer, said standalone auxiliary display unit including a display and an input user interface, said computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

displaying first information associated with a first active application on said main display unit;

displaying a graphical user interface associated with a second active application on the display of said standalone auxiliary display unit;

receiving input through the input user interface of the standalone auxiliary display unit for controlling aspects of the second active application represented in the graphical user interface and requesting second information associated with the application;

obtaining the second information; and

outputting displaying the second information on the display by way of said standalone auxiliary display unit.

Claim 56 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein said auxiliary display unit is a standalone unit including the display and the input user interface.